Pau-Print PRESS Spring 2023



This resilient boy is finally pain free because of your support. *Story continued inside.*



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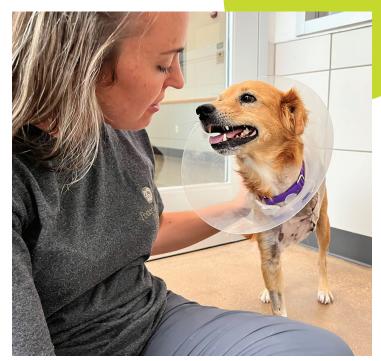
Potter League

Max Fought Through the Pain Until Help Arrived

Max should have been energetic and playful at just three years old, but every step caused him immense pain. He was a stray found wandering with another dog, both in extremely poor condition.

After a physical exam, our Shelter Medicine Team suspected something was very wrong with his front left leg. X-rays revealed something unexpected and catastrophic. Max suffered from a fracture to his humorous bone. Surprisingly, a temporary pin had been inserted years before to help heal the fracture but was never removed. Additionally, the pin was not inserted in the correct position, which was why his fracture had not healed. This had been causing Max an immense amount of pain for years and he was struggling to walk. The only way to relieve the pain and improve Max's quality of life, would be to amputate his leg.

After his surgery, Max was placed into a loving Potter League foster home where he could heal and receive all the TLC he needed. Max quickly recovered and is now spending his days playing happily in his new loving home.



B-Mod Grads:

Our Mod Squad is a team of specially trained staff and volunteers who work with the most serious behavior challenges facing the animals at the Potter League. After working with this specially trained Potter League for Animals Behavior Team, Marvin and Simon were official Mod Squad graduates and found their loving homes!

Marvin

At just 6 months old, Marvin was found wandering alone. A good Samaritan brought him to the Potter League, where he was initially showing signs of fear in an unfamiliar environment. With

time and patience, Marvin began to come out of his shell, however, most likely due to lack of socialization, he began jumping up and mouthing staff and volunteers. Our Behavior Team implemented a behavior modification plan for Marvin to help teach him calmer greeting behaviors and self-control. He was soon learning proper greeting etiquette. Marvin spent six weeks in our behavior modification program and was adopted in November 2022.



Simon

While most cats who come to the Potter League can adjust to shelter life, those from challenging circumstances sometimes need extra help to prepare for life in a new home. Some may spend days hiding in the back of their kennel, trying to disappear. Others may lash out, hiss

or scratch. In both instances, fear is at the heart of their behavioral challenges. Simon first arrived, hissing and growling at anyone who dared look his way. We knew he would need help from our rehabilitation team. He needed a quiet space and our behavior and veterinary teams to provide daily care, enrichment, and training. Simon started with a quiet staff office and then a foster home using reward-based training, interactive play therapy, and the comfort of other animals. In his foster home, Simon went from hiding and hissing to asking for pets and attention within months. Simon was adopted in October 2022.

Leaders of the Pack: Hill's Pet Nutrition

Strong partnerships are vital to the success of our work at the Potter League. We depend on individuals and organizations in our community to ensure the animals we care for have everything they need to survive and thrive. One of our longest-lasting partnerships is with Hills Pet Nutrition. This year that relationship has reached a milestone. We have partnered with Hills for 20 years to ensure every dog and cat cared for at our Animal Care Center has the same high-quality, nutritious food daily.

Animals often come to us with medical or behavioral challenges, and no matter how well we care for animals, the transition to our care and then to a new home can be stressful. Frequent changes to their diets can make the transition more difficult. In addition, to ensuring animals get the same food every day while with us, every adopter gets a starter bag of food to take home so their new family member will avoid the upset that can come with a sudden change in diet.

Hills has been more than a supplier of pet food for us. They are national leaders helping people prepare for disasters with their pets in mind. When our CEO spoke at Rhode Island's disaster preparedness summit this year, Hills provided pet 'go bags' to give away with items to help prepare and educational materials assisting people in understanding what they'll need for their pets if disaster strikes. Hills will also send free pet food to support the community's recovery if there is a disaster. Since starting their disaster response program, they've given away 2.3 million pounds of food to communities recovering from disaster.

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One of the reasons our relationship with Hills has lasted so long is that they genuinely listen to the needs of organizations like ours and act on them. Our CEO serves on the Hills Shelter Advisory Committee and meets annually with Hills executives to exchange ideas about how our partnership can be stronger and more beneficial to animals in need. It was one of those conversations that led Hills to start

providing a prescription diet to shelters that is specially formulated to lower stress for cats.

Helping shelters is deeply rooted in the work Hills does, and they've worked with over 1,000 shelters providing more than \$300 million in pet food to homeless animals. We have appreciated every day of our 20 years of partnership, and the animals enjoy every day that a bowl filled with Science Diet arrives in their kennel. We look forward to another 20 years.



Coco, a 2-year-old cat, was surrendered to the Potter League in early December by an individual who had rescued her when they both escaped a cult. It was clear from the initial examination that Coco was not well. She was dehydrated, running a fever, and suffering from pyometra, an infection of the uterus, that can be fatal if not treated.

Coco's condition was grave, and she needed an immediate life-saving procedure. Our Shelter Medicine Team rushed to perform surgery on Coco, removing a four-pound infected uterus and ovaries. She was then placed on medication and fluids in our quiet Hamilton Family Surgical Recovery Center.

This beautiful cat's story is a common one. Hundreds of animals just like her come through our doors and need specialized and sometimes intensive medical treatment. When they are critical like Coco, it is your continued support that allows them to receive the medical care they need right away.



Miracle Maker's Spotlight

"Sammy and Gigi are not just dogs or pets. They are a part of our family."

Sammy & Gigi's family had spent two months living in a homeless shelter when they were accepted into the transitional housing program at the Woman's Resource Center. They recall being moved to tears when they were told their dogs could come too. They were finally getting their family back together. The family had



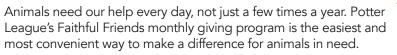
They were finally getting their family back together. The family had been separated for months with animals and people required to live in separate places.

Sadly, almost 50 percent of domestic violence victims will delay leaving their abuser out of fear of harm to their animals. Yet, fewer than 20 percent of domestic violence shelters nationwide offer pet assistance or co-housing for people and pets. This creates a significant barrier for families and individuals with pets seeking safety from domestic abuse. But this barrier can be overcome. As of October, last year, our long-time community partner, the Women's Resource Center's shelter, is officially pet-friendly.

Women's Resource Center has been a partner of our Pet Safe Housing program, keeping families together for over a decade. Most pet owners consider their pets part of their family, and so do we, so it only makes sense to keep those families whole whenever possible. In years past, in partnership with WRC, when someone was fleeing abuse, the Potter League would house their pets in a secure and confidential location for however long the family needed while creating a new life for themselves. While Pet Safe animals are in our care, they receive housing, food, and any veterinary care they need at no cost to the family. However, while they are physically safe from harm, the pets and their families are still physically separated, and the Women's Resource Center set out to change that. With the help of a grant and in consultation with Potter League staff, renovations were made to include safe spaces for people and pets to live together. The Potter League will continue to provide veterinary care, food, and supplies to pets in the WRC program.

We see a future where everyone will access the support they need without worrying about whether pets will be separated from their family members. Thanks to the Women's Resource Center that future is here to stay.

Become a Faithful Friend and Help Animals Year-Round



Becoming a monthly donor takes less than five minutes and provides a dependable source of funding so every animal in need gets a second chance.

Join today at potterleague.org/faithfulfriends or contact our development team at 401-846-0592.





Save the Dates

Vacation Camp: Feb. 20 – 24 April 10 – 14 Camp Happy Tails: July 10 – August 18 (weekly)



Potter Pet University: March 8, 2023 April 11, 2023 May 10, 2023 **LoveBash for Animals:** May 6, 2023 Wyndham Newport Hotel Online Auction April 14 – May 6, 2023

Yappy Hour: July 16, 2023

Heart & Sole Walk for Animals: October 22, 2023



Animal Care & Adoption Center

87 Oliphant Lane Middletown, RI 02842

> 401.846.8276 (p) 401.846.0681 (f)

Spay & Neuter Clinic

235 Elm Street Warwick, RI 02888

401.369.7297 (p) 401.369.7295 (f)

Pets In Need Veterinary Clinic

50 Amaral Street Riverside, RI 02915

401.270.3832 (p) 401.270.3487 (f)

www.PotterLeague.org

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